

Bioelectronic modulation of carotid sinus nerve to treat metabolic diseases

20 May 2019 | 13h45

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Silvia Vilares Conde is a full time Professor at NOVA Medical School (NMS) and Investigator at CEDOC (Chronic Disease Research Center) of NMS. She is graduated in Biochemistry, MSc in Physiology and in 2007 she pursued her PhD in Pharmacology from both NOVA University of Lisbon and the University of Valladolid. In 2009 she was awarded with the L'Oreal Medals Honor for Women in Science. Her research focuses on understanding the physiology of the autonomic nervous system, in particular the carotid body, and its relation with pathological states as metabolic and cardiovascular diseases.

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Silvia is dedicated to the characterization of pathophysiological biosignals, disease signatures and fingerprints that will allow the identification of targets for therapy, particularly bioelectronic targets, as her group recently described that high frequency electrical stimulation of carotid sinus nerve restores insulin sensitivity and glucose homeostasis in type 2 diabetes models. Additionally, knowing that obesity precedes type 2 diabetes and other comorbidities she is now interested in developing therapeutic strategies to decrease weight gain, e.g, by promoting the browning of adipose tissue.